Supply of US Navy Frigates to Pakistan

3367. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report that appeared in the Times Defence Weekly to the effect that Pakistan would be supplied in next few months four US Navy frigates by the United States, in addition to those already delivered to it; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what is Government's reaction thereto and in what manner the frigate supply to Pakistan would affect our defence preparedness; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the issue with the US Government; if so, what has been their response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. In 1988, the United States Government had agreed to transfer eight U.S. Navy Frigates to Pakistan. This process is to be completed during the current year.

(b) Appropriate measures are taken at all times to ensure the country's security.

(c) From time to time, the Government of India have conveyed to the United States Government India's serious concern about the supply of sophisticated US arms to Pakistan.

Maintenance of Ancient Temples in Phulbani, Orissa

3368. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dilapidated condition of the ancient temples in Phulbani District, Orissa;

(b) whether those temples/ancient monuments need maintenance; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The centrally protected monuments in Phulbani District of Orissa are not in a dilapidated condition. These are being preserved and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India as per requirement and principles of archaeological conservation.

Development of Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri and Udaygiri

3369. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the development of Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri and Udaygiri in Orissa;

(b) if so, what specific steps have been taken in that regard during the last three years;

(c) the amount spent on the developmental work during these years; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. With a view to ensuring planned and integrated development of Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri and Udaigiri, the Central